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Docket No. CDR07007

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 14, as follows.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of an intelligent service network (ISN) environment 102 according to one embodiment of the present invention. The switch controllers 112 within the ISNs 108 provide access for a call initiated via PSTN 106 to ISN components 116a, 116b, ...116n (116) also within ISNs 108. Switch controllers 112 are described in further detail in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/096,938, now U.S. Patent 6,480,597 ~~allowed~~, entitled[[],] "Switch Controller" incorporated herein by reference. Except as otherwise ~~noted~~, when elements of the ISNs 108 are referred to generally, they will be referred to with a ~~number~~ designation and not a letter designation.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 27, as follows.

The ISN components 116 also include protocol converters 232a, 232b, ... 232n that convert between various telecommunications protocols. Protocol converters 232 provide protocol conversion between different protocols such as TCP/IP, NSPP on top of UDP/IP, and packet switching protocols, such as X.25. Exemplary components that perform protocol conversion are the advanced intelligent network gateway (AIN) described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/967,339, now US Patent 6,229,819, entitled[[],] "Advanced Intelligent Network Gateway" and the validation gateway described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/956,220, now US Patent 6,160,874, entitled[[],] "Validation Gateway," incorporated herein by reference. Both components are described in more detail with respect to FIG. 3. The capabilities of the components described in the previously referenced applications are not limited by the examples given and are defined by the scope of the claims in the applications.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 1, as follows.

Additional information concerning ISN components 116 is provided in copending U.S. Patent Application No. 08/956,232, now U.S. Patent 6,188,761, entitled[[],] "A System and Method for Providing Operator and Customer Services for Intelligent Overlay Networks," incorporated herein by reference.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 27, as follows.

The programmable switch support function 604 provides an interface between the switch controller 112A and the programmable switch 110A. The programmable switch support function 604 translates messages between a generic switch controller SCAPI message format and programmable switch API message format, manages message header/trailer requirements, and controls connectivity to the programmable switch 110. The generic switch controller SCAPI message format is the messaging among the routines of the switch controller application program 602 within the switch controller 112. The SCAPI messaging is described in further detail in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/096,937, now U.S. Patent No. 6,587,890, incorporated by reference herein. The programmable switch support function 604 also hides the switch-specific interface details, such as API message framing, checksum, retries, sequence numbers. In addition, the programmable switch support function 604 encodes and decodes the matrix specific message set; extracts call processing information from the messages; encodes/decodes the messages in the generic Switch Controller API (SCAPI) format before passing them to the call control function 606. The programmable switch support function 604 also monitors the health of the switch interface and passes the alarms generated on this interface to the appropriate routines within the Switch Controller. The programmable switch support function 604 implements logic that is required for successful communication with the programmable switch 110.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 16, as follows.

All of the routines within the switch controller application program 602 will be described in further detail in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/096,938, now allowed U.S. Patent No. 6,480,597, referenced above.